



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 586-4410
Fax: (808) 586-4444

For Immediate Release: January 4, 2006

06-01

**NEW YEAR'S AIR QUALITY IMPROVES FROM LAST YEAR
AND MEETS STANDARDS**

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health's Clean Air Branch recorded lower levels of smoke in Hawaii's atmosphere from the 2006 New Year's fireworks celebration compared to last year. The monitored results for particulates were lower at all the monitoring stations and met the 24-hour state and federal air quality standards.

The Clean Air Branch tracks the air quality and the smoke level through air monitoring stations located at 4 sites in Hawaii consisting of Liliha, Pearl City, Kapolei, and Kihei, Maui. The Honolulu station was inoperative due to roofing work being conducted on the building.

Of the four sites, Pearl City recorded the highest particulate levels followed by much lower levels at Liliha, Kapolei, and Kihei. The levels began to increase around 8:00 p.m., peaked at 1:00 a.m., and dramatically improved by 2:00 a.m.

"Unlike last year when we had no winds or rain, we were fortunate this year to have some winds during the late evening and some light rain during the early morning hours," said Wilfred Nagamine, Clean Air Branch Chief. "Both the wind and the rain helped in dispersing and clearing the particles from the air."

The use of fireworks during the New Year's celebration will always have an impact on the air quality, but the degree of impact for any location is greatly influenced by the wind and rain, the amount of fireworks burned in the area, and the configuration of the land.

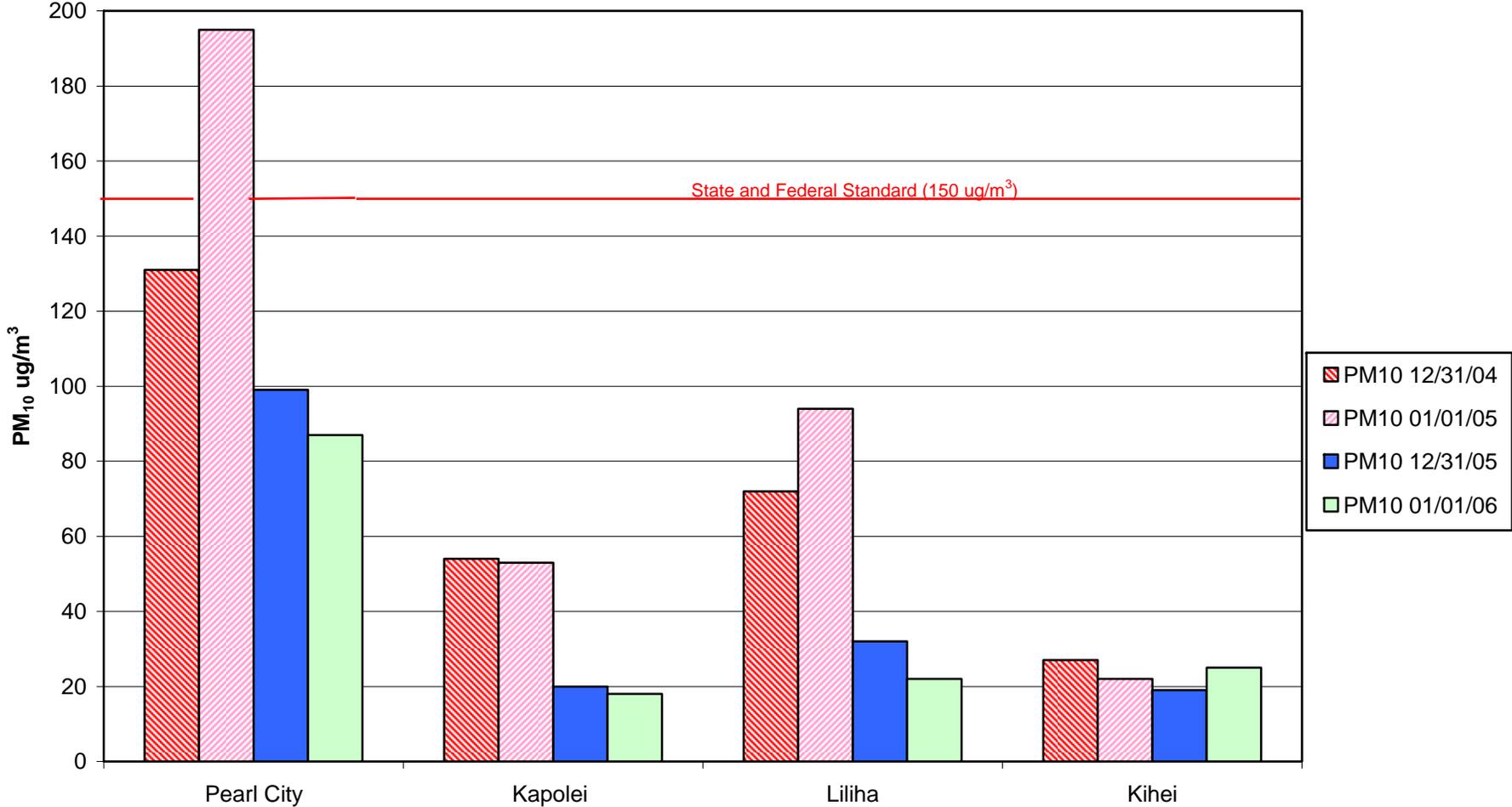
The attached graphs are available in color via e-mail by request, and on the DOH website.

###

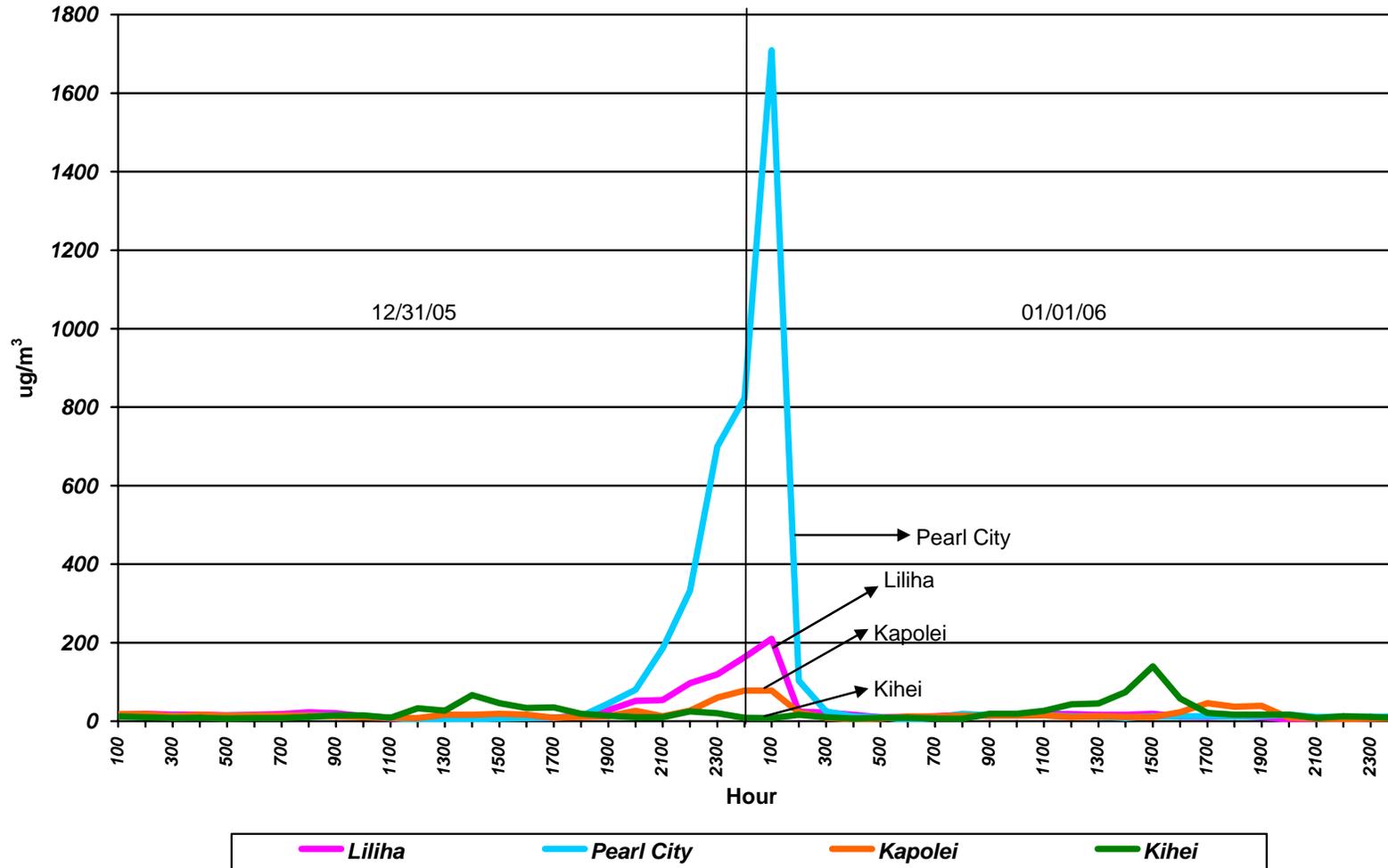
For information contact:
Janice Okubo
Department of Health
(808) 586-4442

Wilfred Nagamine
Department of Health
(808) 586-4200

New Year's 24-Hour PM₁₀ Averages (ug/m³) : 2004 - 2006



1-Hour PM₁₀ (ug/m³) Data for December 31, 2005 and January 01, 2006



There is no State or Federal 1-hour standard for PM₁₀

The State and Federal standards for PM₁₀ are 150 ug/m³ averaged over 24 hours not to be exceeded more than once per year.

No data was available this year from Honolulu due to reroofing occurring at Kinau Hale, site of the air station.

24-Hour PM₁₀ Averages (ug/m³) on December 31, 2005 and January 01, 2006 for Hawaii

